PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

TRANSMITTAL FORM

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Application Number	10/849,404
Filing Date	May 18, 2004
First Named Inventor	Pan, Shaoher X.
Art Unit	2873
Examiner Name	Richard E. Hanig
Attorney Docket Number	021713-002321US

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

ENCLOSURES *(Check all that apply)*

- ☐ Fee Transmittal Form
  - ☐ Fee Attached
- ☐ Amendment/Reply
  - ☐ After Final
  - ☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)
- ☐ Extension of Time Request
- ☐ Express Abandonment Request
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement
- ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- ☐ Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application
  - ☐ Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53
- ☐ Drawing(s)
- ☐ Licensing-related Papers
- ☐ Petition
- ☐ Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application
- ☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address
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  - ☐ Landscape Table on CD
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- ☐ Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
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Issue Fee Transmittal - Part B (in duplicate).
Communication - Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.
Return Postcard

Remarks The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account 20-1430.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP		
Signature			
Printed name	Craig C. Largent		
Date	2/15/06	Reg. No.	56,400

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TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By:

PATENT
Docket No.: 021713-002321US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:	Examiner: Richard E. Hanig
SHAOHER X. PAN et al.	Art Unit: 2873
Application No.: 10/849,404	COMMUNICATION - COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE
Filed: May 18, 2004	
For: FABRICATION OF A HIGH FILL RATIO REFLECTIVE SPATIAL LIGHT MODULATOR WITH HIDDEN HINGE	

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants note that claim 1 recites:

1. A method of fabricating a spatial light modulator, comprising:

forming a first substrate defining a cavity;

fabricating an electrode on a second substrate;

bonding the first substrate to the second substrate;

forming a hinge and mirror plate on the first substrate; and

applying a reflective surface on a mirror plate and above a portion of the hinge, the reflective surface having an area greater than an area of the upper surface of the mirror plate.

Applicants note that claim 27 recites:

27. A method of fabricating a plurality of mirrors for a spatial light modulator, comprising:

forming a cavity in a first side of a first substrate;

thinning a top layer on a second side of the first substrate to a predetermined thickness;

etching a hinge on the second side of the first substrate substantially beneath an upper surface of the thinned first substrate;

depositing a sacrificial layer on the second side of the first substrate;

planarizing the second side of the first substrate;

depositing a reflective surface on the second side of the first substrate;

releasing a mirror by etching;

removing the sacrificial layer on and around the hinge so the mirror can rotate about an axis defined by the hinge.

Applicants note that claim 39 recites:

39. A method of fabricating a spatial light modulator including an array of a plurality of mirrors, comprising:

generating a mask defining areas to be etched from a first side of a first substrate;

etching the areas on the first side of the first substrate defined by the mask to form a plurality of cavities in the first side of the first substrate;

fabricating electrodes on a first side of a second substrate;

bonding the first side of the first substrate to the first side of the second substrate;

thinning a top layer on the second side of the first substrate to a predetermined thickness;

etching a hinge in the first substrate;

depositing a sacrificial layer on the first substrate;

planarizing the first substrate to remove the sacrificial layer from an upper surface on the second side of the first substrate, leaving sacrificial material on and around the hinge;

depositing a reflective surface on the upper surface and above a portion of the hinge;

releasing a mirror by etching;

removing the remaining sacrificial layer from the first substrate so the mirror can rotate about an axis defined by the hinge.

None of the prior art references teach or suggest a method as recited in any of these claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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